



IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 5-6 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1-3 to read as follows*:

1. (Amended) A crystallizable composition capable of producing crystals for use in X-ray crystallography comprising:
- a. an HCV NS3 helicase protein selected from SEQ ID NO:2; fragments of SEQ ID NO:2 comprising at least amino acids 183 to 582; mutants of SEQ ID NO:2 containing one or more of the following amino acid substitutions: Ser231-to-Ala, Thr269-to-Ala, Ser370-to-Ala, Thr411-to-Ala, Trp501-to-Phe, Trp501-to-Leu or Trp501-to-Ala, Gln460-to-Ala, Arg461-to-Ala, Arg462-to-Ala, Arg464-to-Ala, or Arg467-to-Ala, or fragments of SEQ ID NO:2 comprising at least amino acids 183 to 582 and containing one or more of the following amino acid substitutions: Ser231-to-Ala, Thr269-to-Ala, Ser370-to-Ala, Thr411-to-Ala, Trp501-to-Phe, Trp501-to-Leu or Trp501-to-Ala, Gln460-to-Ala, Arg461-to-Ala, Arg462-to-Ala, Arg464-to-Ala, or Arg467-to-Ala; and
- b. an oligonucleotide consisting of between 6 and 12 nucleotide or nucleotide pairs.
2. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said HCV NS3 helicase protein comprises amino acids 167-631 of SEQ ID NO:2 and wherein said oligonucleotide is a single stranded polynucleotide consisting of between

* The changes as indicated by bracketing and underlining are presented in Appendix 1.